

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 28 are pending in this application. Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1 through 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being invalid over AIQ Systems (www.aiqsystems.com).

Applicants propose adding a paragraph to the specification to make cross reference to pending applications that are related to the subject matter of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned representative respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending office action in view of the following remarks.

Initialed PTO FORM-1449

In a communication mailed March 26, 2001, Applicants submitted an Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449. In a communication mailed October 2, 2001, Applicants submitted a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449. Examiner-initialed copies of the submitted PTO-1449 forms have not been received. Applicants' undersigned representative respectfully requests that the Office provide an initialed copy of the PTO- 1449 forms indicating that the Office has considered the references in connection with this application.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Applicants' undersigned representative proposes amending claim 1 to further emphasize that the recited features of the claimed method are performed by a computer system. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 through 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being invalid over AIQ Systems (www.aiqsystems.com). Applicants' undersigned representative respectfully requests reconsideration of this rejection.

Only references that qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102 may be cited in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103. The Web site www.aiqsystems.com is not prior art under 35

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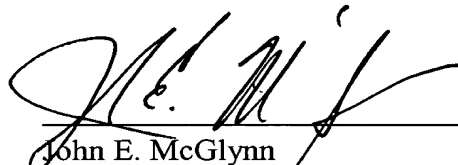
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U.S.C. § 102. Indeed, there is no indication that www.aiqsystems.com even existed prior to the filing date of the present application, let alone had the functionality corresponding to the claimed features. Accordingly, Applicants' undersigned representative respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). If the Office maintains the rejection, Applicants' undersigned representative respectfully requests that in order to advance the progress of the application, the Office show that the Web site www.aiqsystems.com and the features of that Web site that are relied upon for the rejection qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

CONCLUSION

Applicants' undersigned representative respectfully submits that pending claims 1 through 28 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present Office Action and a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested

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